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Bangalore Mirror

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CCTV captures rise in parcel snatching as delivery workers reel under mounting pressure from all sides — even as they race to meet tight schedules, thieves wait for smallest window of opportunity to strike

GONE IN 60 SECONDS

Thorough probe before any action is taken, says company representative

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TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

Customers want food fast, companies expect tight delivery timelines, and if something goes wrong, we are the ones held responsible

—Ramesh, delivery agent

Two bike-borne thieves were caught on CCTV recently coolly lifting a delivery parcel from a bag of delivery bags in Mico Layout before vanishing into the traffic maze. Such parcel snatching incidents are said to have become a familiar tale in this neighbourhood, with sources revealing that sometimes parcels are even ripped right out of people's hands.

Delivery agents in the area say they are increasingly becoming soft targets, with thieves often waiting for that small window of opportunity when they step away from their vehicles. In the latest incident, the duo on a black bike struck outside SNN Raj Apartments in Ranka Colony around 7.30 pm. Mahesh, a delivery executive, had momentarily left his bag outside the residence while making a delivery upstairs. In that short span, one of the helmeted culprits swooped in, grabbed the bag which contained parcels meant for the entire day and fled within seconds. The act was captured on CCTV, and the Mico Layout police have launched a hunt based on the footage.

While doorstep thefts of milk packets or slippers are not unheard of, thefts targeting delivery bags stand out due to the direct impact on the earnings of gig workers. "Every parcel is crucial for us. Our income depends on how many we deliver. If even one order goes missing, we lose that amount," said Mahesh. The bag he lost had multiple packages. "That's my entire day's work, gone in a few seconds."

This is not an isolated case. In a similar theft near BTM 2nd Stage two months ago, a man was caught on CCTV stealing food from a delivery bag and fleeing. A delivery

CONTINUED ON PAGE 9 »

CITY / PAGE 6&7

After shocks

- Loved ones of victims shell-shocked
- Lessons not learnt
- FIRs filed, heads roll

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THINGS TO DO

01 Artistic devotion

'Nritya Nivedanam' will be offering an enriching experience of classical dance presented with grace, devotion, and discipline — a testament to the dedication of young artists performing. **Where: JSS Auditorium, Jayanagar; When: June 7, 5 pm**

02 All in jest

Zakir Khan's brand new show 'Papa Yaar' is bringing a world of laughter, love, and nostalgia, through anecdotes packed with wit, emotion, and his signature poetic flair. **Where: Good Shepherd Auditorium, Shanthala Nagar; When: July 26, 3 pm and 7 pm**

03 Musical trance

Taaruk Raina will be performing in his debut tour 'Lost and Found', taking the audience on a captivating journey through his music. **Where: Phoenix Marketcity, Whitefield; When: June 14, 6 pm**

04 Fun n frolic

Ranga Shankara is organising Tila, a puppet play for children above 6 years of age, about Tila, a trickster who always believes he is cleverer than others. **Where: Ranga Shankara, JP Nagar; When: June 8, 3.30 pm and 6 pm**

05 Chaat chat

The Ritz-Carlton is organising 'The Chaat Festival', a celebration of India's beloved street delicacies, elevated through the artistry of their chefs. **Where: The Market, The Ritz-Carlton; When: May 10 to June 10**

Midday meal costs cut due to early monsoon

This year's savings underscore importance of long-term planning and climate-resilient policies, and highlight how improved rainfall can ease burden on grass root infrastructure, says economist

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Under the PM Poshan scheme, the state government provides midday meals during summer vacations in areas officially declared drought-affected

Thanks to the early arrival of the monsoon and the absence of drought-like conditions in Karnataka this year, the state and central government have saved a total of Rs 88 crore under the midday meal scheme.

This significant saving comes as the Department of School Education did not have to extend the midday meal program during the summer vacation—a routine practice in drought-affected districts. Frequent rains triggered by early monsoon and cyclonic activity in 2025 helped Karnataka avoid declaring drought in any district, eliminating the need to provide meals during holidays.

In 2025–26, the department has been permitted to provide meals on 244 academic days to 40.07 lakh students

An official said, "In 2024, the state had supplied midday meals for 41 days to 26.09 lakh students in drought-hit districts. The centre had contributed Rs 55.82 crore and the state Rs 32.58 crore, sharing costs in a 60:40 ratio. A total of 60,826 cooking assistants were engaged, and the cost per student averaged Rs 5.45. Of the total beneficiaries, 16.25 lakh were primary and 9.83 lakh were high school students."

What is the scheme?

Under the PM Poshan scheme, the state government provides midday meals during summer vacations in areas officially declared drought-affected. Since no such declarations were made in 2025, the meal service was not required, resulting in a projected savings of Rs 88 crore.

In 2025–26, the department has been permitted to provide meals on 244 academic days to 40.07 lakh students, for which the government has approved an outlay of Rs 607 crore. Officials noted that the unused funds from this year cannot be diverted to other projects. Instead, if needed in the future, the state will submit a fresh proposal to the centre, which may then release additional grants.

Siddanand V, an economist, said that this year's early and consistent monsoon has been a game-changer for Karnataka, especially in terms of resource allocation for welfare schemes. "The Rs 88 crore saved under the midday meal scheme is not just a financial relief—it reflects how environmental stability can reduce the pressure on emergency welfare budgets," he said. He noted that in the past years, providing meals during extended summer breaks in drought-affected districts was critical for food security. He said that while the scheme is a lifeline, this year's savings underscore the importance of long-term planning and climate-resilient policies. "It also highlights how improved rainfall can ease the burden on grassroot infrastructure—cooking staff, logistics, and supply chains. However, these funds must remain accessible for future contingencies," he said. He opined that the government should focus on strengthening storage, nutritional standards, and readiness for future climate uncertainties. "With weather becoming increasingly unpredictable, agility in planning and funding is key," he added.

TFAPA appeals for 'Thug Life' release

The Tamil Film Active Producers Association (TFAPA) has submitted an official appeal to the Karnataka Film Chamber of Commerce (KFCC), urging the body to lift the reported ban on the release of the Tamil film 'Thug Life' and allow smooth release of the film.

In a letter addressed to KFCC President M Narasimhalu, the TFAPA highlighted the long-standing cordial ties between the Tamil and Kannada film industries. The letter addressed concerns surrounding Kamal Haasan's recent comments at a pre-release event in Bengaluru, clarifying that his words were not intended to undermine Kannada but were rather spoken out of admiration for the language.

The letter further clarified that Haasan had spoken about the deep fraternal bond shared between the Tamil and Kannada languages, and had also issued a formal clarification on the matter in a letter addressed to the chamber. In light of this, the association urged KFCC to uphold the spirit of unity and extend their support by ensuring the unhindered release of the film in Karnataka.

The TFAPA stated "Stopping or postponement of the release of Kamal Haasan's film 'Thug Life' in Karnataka will permanently damage the harmonious relationship that exists between the two film industries and may lead to consequences, which will affect both the film industries in the coming years." It appealed to KFCC to show tolerance and magnanimity by allowing the smooth release of the film.

— BMB

SBI supports baby feeding centres under CSR initiative

State Bank of India (SBI), Bengaluru, in partnership with Child Help Foundation (CHF), has supported the establishment of four baby feeding centres in Bengaluru under its Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) programme. The centres have been set up at Banashankari Metro Station (Green Line), RV Road Metro Station (Green Line), Benniganahalli Metro Station (Purple Line), and the Indira Gandhi Institute of Child Health (IGICH). These locations have been chosen based on footfall and the requirement for mother-and-child facilities.

The centre at Benniganahalli Metro Station was inaugurated on

June 4, 2025, by Joohi Smita Sinha, Chief General Manager, SBI Bengaluru Circle. The event was attended by Lakshman Singh, Chief General Manager, BMRCL, and Rajiv Menon from Child Help Foundation.

Assistant General Manager (MC & CSR) said, "These centres are meant to provide safe and convenient spaces for lactating mothers, especially those commuting or visiting hospitals." SBI officials said the initiative is part of the bank's efforts to improve public infrastructure and support maternal and child care. Child Help Foundation acknowledged SBI's support in implementing this initiative. — BMB

Licious reroutes supply to cope with fishing ban

As seasonal fishing bans take effect along India's coasts, Licious has rerouted sourcing from multiple coastal regions to ensure steady seafood supply in cities. The 61-day ban runs from April 15 to June 14 on the East Coast and from June 1 to July 31 on the West Coast to support marine breeding. This has reduced supply in wet markets and led to price increase between 40% to 80% across states like Odisha, Andhra Pradesh, and Tamil Nadu.

According to a release, to manage demand, Licious uses daily forecasting, regional rerouting, and a cold chain system that operates between 0–4°C. The company sources fresh catch from small boats and follows all government rules on mechanised trawling. "Licious sources from sites across Kerala, Andhra Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, West Bengal, Karnataka, Gujarat, Maharashtra, Odisha, and Goa. It transports inventory via truck, rail, and air, keeping products at low temperatures without freezing. While the broader market sees shortages, Licious maintains availability of 94 fish types, including seer, pomfret, anchovies, mackerel, and pink perch," the release stated. — BMB

GarbhaGudi IVF Centre felicitates Thimmakka

GarbhaGudi IVF Centre marked World Environment Day on June 5 with a special event. Environmentalist and Padma Shri awardee Saalumaradа Thimmakka, known for planting and taking care of over 8,000 trees, was felicitated by Vijay Kumar S, Founder and CEO of GarbhaGudi IVF Centre. "Thimmakka was known as the "Mother of Trees" as she has helped in creating widespread environmental awareness across the world by planting and nurturing eight thousand trees," he said. On this occasion, Thimmakka gave a sapling to Vijayakumar and wished him by saying, "Your environmental concern is admirable, continue it." Ravi Ajjipura, Media Manager at GarbhaGudi IVF Centre, also took part in the programme. — BMB

Time to break up this public booze party

Of over 2 lakh excise cases in 3 years, major chunk for consuming alcohol in public spaces

Despite surveillance, citizens say public spaces continue to become open bar after sundown

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> **It is not just the drinking. It is the mess they leave behind and the intimidation we feel. We have stopped letting our children go out in the evenings**
>
> –RR Nagar resident

The Karnataka Excise Department has recorded a sharp rise in excise-related offences over the last three years, with 2023–24 seeing the highest number of cases. Between 2022–23 and 2024–25, over 2.04 lakh cases were registered, and goods worth 102 crore were seized.

A major chunk of these, nearly 1.43 lakh cases, were registered under Section 15(A) of the Karnataka Excise Act for consuming alcohol in public places. This includes individuals drinking outside MRP liquor outlets and in open spaces such as streets, parks, and playgrounds, despite recurring complaints from residents and local welfare groups.

The number of such cases peaked in 2023–24 with 83,425 cases, followed by 73,942 in 2024–25 and 46,778 in 2022–23. Excise officials attributed the increase to tighter enforcement, especially due to enhanced surveillance measures at the taluk level.

However, residents argue that visible public drinking remains a daily menace. Many report that public spaces including children's play areas are frequently taken over by groups of men consuming alcohol openly at night. Empty bottles, broken glass, and plastic waste are often strewn around by morning.

"It is not just the drinking. It is the mess they leave behind and the intimidation we feel," said a resident of RR Nagar. "We have stopped letting our children go out in the evenings."

Welfare associations have raised the issue multiple times with the excise and police departments, demanding increased patrolling and preventive action. They say that booking cases alone is not enough, and consistent enforcement, along with community clean-up efforts, is needed.

In addition to public drinking, 45,885 cases were filed for violations of licence conditions, including irregular liquor shop timings.

Don't misuse law for vengeance: HC

The Karnataka High Court emphasised that courts must be alert to prevent criminal law from being misused in civil disputes, as it transforms from a protective measure into a harmful tool. This observation came while dismissing a criminal case filed under the SC/ST (Prevention of Atrocities) Act, 1989, by a business partner against another to resolve a financial dispute.

Justice M Nagaprasanna, who quashed the proceedings against Vilas Bhormalji Oswal, noted that the complaint was an attempt to use the legal system as a "blade of vengeance cloaked in the garb of law."

The case was filed by Somashekara, a Scheduled Caste member and former business partner of Oswal. Both were part of Green Land Infra, a real estate firm launched in 2011. Oswal was the authorised signatory, while Somashekara served as managing director. The partnership ended in 2016 following disputes.

Years later, in April 2021, Somashekara lodged a complaint with the Directorate of Civil Rights Enforcement (DCRE), alleging Oswal made a casteist remark "don't show your casteist mindset" in December 2020. However, the DCRE acted on it only in February 2024, recording Somashekara's statement. Two witness statements were added in March, and the complaint was forwarded to Jayanagar police in April. A charge sheet followed, and a trial court took cognisance in June 2024.

HC says caste abuse, witnesses added later to complaint. **–BMB**

Bengaluru is home to the big cats, and how

A year-long scientific survey led by noted conservation biologist Dr Sanjay Gubbi and his team at the Holématthi Nature Foundation (HNF) has revealed that the forests and scrublands surrounding Bengaluru host an estimated 80 to 85 wild leopards, the highest number recorded around any major Indian city.

Of these, 54 were found within Bannerghatta National Park and around 30 in nearby forests such as Turahalli, BM Kaval, UM Kaval, Roerich Estate, Hesaraghatta, and Sulikere. Bengaluru has now overtaken Mumbai's leopard numbers.

The study recommends declaring key forest patches as Conservation Reserves and expanding protection efforts to safeguard biodiversity and wildlife corridors on the city's outskirts. **–BMB**

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WORLD ENVIRONMENT DAY

Turahalli forest is choking under mounds of garbage

Once a rich ecosystem and city's lung space, Turahalli threatened by repeated dumping of non-biodegradable waste; putting its entire ecosystem on the brink

Each person generates around 400 to 600 grams of waste daily. Multiply that with Bengaluru's 1.5 crore population — the magnitude is overwhelming

Even as the world celebrates Environment Day, Bengaluru's Turahalli Forest—a vital lung space—is choking under unchecked garbage dumping. Once a sanctuary for wildlife and a city breathing space, it has become a growing garbage heap, a stark reminder of the city's environmental neglect. Despite cleanup efforts, Turahalli Forest faces ongoing illegal dumping, alarming residents and experts. Shourya A, a PES University student, said, "Monkeys, a leopard, and deer roam here. The site has no fencing, so garbage returns after cleanups. It's heavily used but sadly misused."

Shourya's remarks reflect a frustrating cycle of complaint, cleanup, and relapse. Despite regular BBMP trucks, littering persists due to public apathy and poor enforcement. "There are no warning signs. It's our responsibility to protect nature—this planet belongs to all of us," he said.

Environmental time bomb

Experts warn that the consequences of such dumping extend beyond visual pollution. Non-biodegradable waste, especially plastics, disintegrates into micro and nano particles that seep into the food chain, endangering wildlife and human health.

"Each person generates 400–600 grams of waste daily. With Bengaluru's 1.5 crore population, the

burden is huge," said Dr Harish Kumar K. "BBMP struggles with poor segregation, transport, and dumping grounds."

He emphasised plastics as the most harmful waste since they don't degrade. Microplastics enter the food chain, causing hormone imbalances, thyroid issues, PCOD, and cancers. He also warned that open burning of trash releases toxic gases, worsening air pollution, global warming, ozone depletion, and climate anomalies.

Ecological collapse in the making

Turahalli is more than just a forest. It's an ecological buffer that helps maintain Bengaluru's groundwater levels, controls soil erosion, and supports urban biodiversity. Its degradation signals a deeper crisis.

"Each species — even the smallest insect — plays a role in ecological balance. Loss of biodiversity leads to chain reactions. To prevent this, we need strong awareness campaigns, waste segregation at source, composting, and recycling incentives," Dr Harish noted.

"Nature has no waste. Humans do."

Dr Raghavendra MP, Professor and Head of Microbiology, put it simply: "There is no waste in nature. Leaves fall, decompose, and enrich the soil. What we label as waste — plastics, electronics — is manmade. Nature doesn't recognise it, and it can't recycle it." He insists on the need for better segregation. "Burning organic waste is senseless. Nature already has a system for that. Our job is to remove synthetic materials from the ecosystem. This is not nature's failure — it's human negligence."

The health risks are severe. Heavy metals and microplastics from waste contaminate soil, water, and food, even reaching the placenta. Dr Raghavendra warned of rising reproductive health issues and fatigue, urging urgent action to avoid dire consequences.

A wake-up call

The story of Turahalli Forest highlights that environmental degradation is a local and growing crisis. On World Environment Day, the message is clear: the planet needs saving from human actions, not nature.

Turahalli is more than green space — it's a vital ecosystem supporting wildlife, carbon absorption, and Bengaluru's balance.

Ignoring its gradual destruction by trash is a grave mistake. "This isn't just about trash," said Dr Harish, "It's about survival. The forest will manage without us, but we may not survive without it."

— Achala Nataraj

Footpath pavers block road as work drags on

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Motorists and pedestrians have been facing a lot of hassles due to the inordinate delay in completing the on-going white-topping and the development of the footpath on Kensington Road. The Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) took up the white-topping of the stretch between Madras Sappers and Bhaskaran Road Junction in February and it was supposed to complete in three months but the development of footpath is yet to be completed.

With the schools reopening, many parents carry their children to schools on their two-wheelers. With the incompletion of the developmental works and dumping of pavers on the road, the two-wheeler riders are finding it difficult to commute on this stretch.

"The pavers dumped on the road occupy half of the road and it is dangerous for two-wheeler riders to commute on this road. Parents carry their children on two-wheelers to the nearby schools and the pavers dumped on the road are not only a hassle for the smooth movement of vehicles but also pose danger to school children," said Iftekhar Ahmed, a parent.

Expressing concern over the delay in completing the development of the footpath, a resident of Kallahalli said that senior citizens and children are finding it difficult to walk on the footpath. "The pavers dumped on the road pose danger

to the pedestrians. I want the BBMP engineer to direct the contractor to complete the pending work without any delay," the resident said.

Demanding the BBMP authorities to take measures to complete the pending works, Ganesh N, an auto rickshaw driver, said that commuting on the road has become tough for him as the road width is reduced due to dumping of concrete pavers. "This is the only road that connects Kallahalli and other nearby areas with Old Madras Road. It will be a great relief if the pending works are completed as early as possible," he said. Appealing to the BBMP authorities to ensure the footpath is pedestrian friendly, Kalidasa Reddy, a resident of Kallahalli, said that most of the pedestrians are compelled to walk on the road thus risking their lives. "I want the BBMP authorities to complete the footpath works without any delay for the welfare of pedestrians," he said.

However, BBMP Executive Engineer (Major Roads) was unavailable for comment.

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Commuter inconvenience

KR Puram

At KR Puram, the bus stop beside a hospital is permanently occupied by hospital staff, rendering it unusable for commuters. Despite repeated complaints, RTO, traffic police, and BBMP have taken no action for years.

Shelter crisis

Channasandra

Every time it rains, the Channasandra bus stop near Ramamurthy Junction descends into chaos, with commuters left drenched and scrambling for shelter due to poor infrastructure.

Cable damage

HSR Layout

At Adhvika Homes, Royal Placid Phase 3 (HSR Extension), BESCOM's cable work has choked an avenue tree by tightly wrapping wires around its trunk—posing both environmental and safety risks.

Milann Fertility Center: Pioneering Hope for Parenthood in India

Infertility is emerging as a significant health challenge in India, affecting approximately 15% of couples, according to the Indian Society of Assisted Reproduction (ISAR). In metropolitan cities like Bengaluru, rates are even higher due to fast-paced lifestyles, poor nutrition, processed food consumption, stress, obesity, and pollution. Notably, male infertility now accounts for 40–50% of cases, driven by declining sperm quality, hormonal imbalances, and lifestyle factors.

With over 36 years of expertise, Milann Fertility Center in Bengaluru is South India's first and one of its most trusted fertility centres. It has helped more than 1.24 lakh families fulfil their dream of parenthood. Known for its compassionate and multidisciplinary approach, Milann provides comprehensive support to both men and women at every stage of their reproductive journey.

Personalized Fertility Care at Milann

Milann Fertility Center stands out for its patient-centric, personalized approach to fertility care. A dedicated team of experts—including reproductive medicine specialists, gynaecologists, andrologists, embryologists, genetic counsellors, psychologists, and nutritionists—collaborate to deliver tailored treatment plans for every individual.

Milann offers holistic care for both men and women, encompassing advanced diagnostics, genetic testing, and a comprehensive range of treatments such as in-vitro fertilization (IVF), intrauterine insemination (IUI), and natural conception methods. With a focus on accurate diagnosis and individualized care, Milann is committed to achieving the best possible outcomes for its patients.

Milann's Advanced Fertility Clinic is renowned for offering expert second opinions to couples facing repeated IVF failures, recurrent miscarriages, and for its specialized expertise in managing high-risk pregnancies —providing specialized guidance and renewed hope. "Not every couple needs IVF," explains a Milann specialist. "In many cases, simple lifestyle modifications or treatments like ovulation induction are enough. For others, advanced options such as IUI or IVF are recommended only after a thorough evaluation."

Beyond fertility treatments, Milann offers comprehensive care for women at every stage—from adolescence and infertility to motherhood and menopause. Milann also fosters a supportive and respectful environment where men can openly address their reproductive health, with a strong emphasis on privacy and compassionate care.

Cutting-Edge Technology for Optimal Outcomes

Milann's state-of-the-art infrastructure features a NABL-accredited laboratory, an advanced embryology unit, and specialized services such as oncofertility and egg freezing—helping cancer patients preserve their eggs or sperm before starting chemotherapy or radiotherapy. The dedicated Uro-Andrology unit, led by experienced uro-andrologists, provides precise diagnosis and treatment for male infertility, ensuring comprehensive and holistic care for every patient. Additionally, one of Milann's units has earned NABH accreditation, reflecting its strong commitment to high-quality standards and patient safety.

Addressing Rising Infertility Trends

Recent data shows a rising trend in infertility among younger couples, largely due to delayed parenthood, demanding careers, urban stress, and lifestyle factors such as smoking and alcohol consumption. For women, conditions like Polycystic Ovary Syndrome (PCOS), thyroid disorders, and obesity further impact fertility. Milann addresses these challenges with personalized lifestyle and nutrition counselling, supporting natural conception whenever possible.

Why Choose Milann Fertility Center?

With a legacy of excellence and a commitment to innovation, Milann Fertility Center remains a beacon of hope for couples across India. By combining cutting-edge technology, expert care, and a compassionate approach, Milann transforms dreams of parenthood into reality.

Ready to start your journey to parenthood? Contact Milann Fertility Center in Bengaluru today for personalized fertility solutions. To know more, visit www.milann.co.in or call 9513310580 to book a consultation

Aftermath of a catastrophe

‘I saved a man in the stampede, but no one could save my daughter’

Mother of 14-year-old recalls horror; friends and families of other victims too reel under terrible shock

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A celebration meant to honour RCB’s success turned into a heartbreaking tragedy for several families who lost their loved ones in a deadly stampede outside Chinnaswamy Stadium on Wednesday.

Ashwini, the grieving mother of 14-year-old Divyanshi, recounted their final moments. She said, “No one reached out to help my daughter, no one even tried to lift her from the ground. All the crowd cared about was pushing their way into the stadium.”

“She insisted she wanted to see Virat Kohli. I didn’t let her see Appu (Puneeth Rajkumar) once due to the crowd. So this time, I thought I’ll give her this one memory,” Ashwini said. “She didn’t have big dreams, just wanted to see Virat once.”

Ashwini, her daughter and sister Rachana had no plans to enter the stadium. “We just wanted to see the players from afar. But suddenly, the crowd became unmanageable,” she said. In the chaos that followed, Ashwini was separated from her daughter and barely managed to escape herself, with a bleeding toe, missing slippers, and breathlessness.

Yet, in that terrifying moment, she rescued a man, who had fallen and was about to be crushed under the surging crowd. “I saved someone’s life, but no one saved my daughter,” she wept. “There were the media, police, so many people, but no one cared to help. All they wanted was to get inside.”

Divyanshi, who had just completed 8th grade, was found trampled. Ashwini tried reaching her sister and daughter via phone, but the network was jammed. “We couldn’t find an ambulance. The traffic was terrible. I begged people to move aside and let us through,” Ashwini said.

More lives lost

Sahana (23), a software engineer from Kolar working at Bosch, was also among the victims. She had come to the celebration with seven of her colleagues but hadn’t informed her parents about her plans. “She spoke to us in the morning but by evening, we got a call from the hospital saying she had been brought in. We rushed there, only to realise a stampede had taken place and she had succumbed to suffocation,” a relative told the media. Sahana, the eldest daughter was a pillar of strength for her family.

Relatives of Divyanshi at her funeral in Yelahanka, on Thursday

Prajwal (22), a techie who had just attended a job interview, decided to join the celebration afterward. His family, unaware of the unfolding chaos, believed he would return home once the interview was over. As they watched news about the stampede and discussed the madness of the crowd, they had no idea Prajwal was among the 11 who had died.

Devi, 29, an only child and techie from Tamil Nadu, was a devoted RCB and Virat Kohli fan. She had taken a few hours off work to attend the event, her friends told the media, fighting back tears. “She left saying she’ll try to get a ticket at the venue,” a friend shared. “She messaged, ‘I’m taking the metro!’, that was the last we heard from her.” “Her laptop and bag are still at her desk... but she’s not,” one of them said.

Shravan (20), a second-year BDS student from Ambedkar Medical and Dental College, was also crushed in the crowd. He hailed from Chintamani.

Reports of molestation

Amid the chaos, multiple disturbing accounts emerged of women being physically assaulted and molested during the overcrowded event. One user on X shared that a relative of his friend was physically assaulted, her clothes torn, and she was molested while trying to escape the crowd. “The crowd was unreal and no one was watching. The police were helpless,” a survivor shared.

PVR-INOX CINEMAS (FORUM Kormangala | ORION Dr. Rajkumar Road | VAISHNAVI Yeshwanthpur | VEGA CITY Bannerghatta Road | REGALIA Nagawara | BHARATIYA Thanisandra | MARKET CITY Devasandra | VR MALL Devasandra | SPIRIT MALL Bellandur | REX DIRECTORS CUT MG Road | GT WORLD Magadi Road | AURA Whitefield | GLOBAL MALL / DIVINITY SATTAVA MALL Nayandalli | SUPERPLEX FORUM MALL FALCON CITY Kanakapura Road | OMR UPTOWN MALL Whitefield | FORUM MALL Mysore Hyderali Road | GARUDA MALL Mysore Albert Victor Road | FORUM FIZA MALL Mangalore | GARUDA MALL Magrath Road | MANTRI MALL Malleshwaram | LIDO Ulsoor | SWAGATH Jayanagar | CENTRAL MALL JP Nagar | RMZ MALL Yelahanka | GARUDA Yelahanka | SBR HORIZON MALL Seege Halli | BROOKFIELD Kundlahalli Mainm Road | MALL OF ASIA Airport Road | VALUE NEIGHBOURHOOD MALL Whitefield | S MALL Tumkur | MALL OF Mysore | CENTRO Mysore | CENTRAL MALL Manipal) | CINEPOLIS CINEMAS (ROYAL MEENAKSHI MALL Gottigere | ETA MALL Binni Mill | ORION EAST MALL Banasawadi | FORUM SHANTINIKETAN MALL Whitefield | LULU MALL Rajaji Nagar | SJR Arkere Gate | CITY CENTRAL MALL Mangalore) | MOVIE TIME CINEMAS (RR Nagar) | MIRAJ CINEMAS (Sunkadakatte) | GOPALAN (INNOVATION MALL Bhannerghatta Road | ARCH MALL Rajarajeshwari Nagar | LEGACY MALL Satalie Bus Stand | GRAND MALL Old Madras Road | SIGNATURE MALL Old Madras Road) | CINE PHILE (HSR Layout, A-10:25, 1:30, 6:55, 10:00 p.m., B-10:30, 3:20, 6:25, 9:30 p.m.) | ROCKLINE CINEMAS (Jalahalli Cross) | KINO CINEMAS (Seege Halli, A-12:00, 3:10, 6:20, 9:30 p.m., B-11:30, 2:40, 5:50 p.m.) | INNOVATIVE MULTIPLEX (Marath Halli) | V CINEMAS (T C Palya) | NEWFANGLED MINIPLEX (M G Road, A-11:00, 1:30, 5:00, 7:30, 10:30, 10:55 p.m., B-10:30, 1:30, 4:30, 8:00, 10:45 p.m.) | DRC CINEMAS (Mysore) | BHARATH CINEMAS (Mangalore, A-9:30, 10:45, 2:45, 4:30, 8:45, 10:30 p.m., B-11:30, 1:30, 5:45, 7:30 p.m. | Shimoga | Manipal | Kundapura, A-10.30, 1.45, 5.00, 8.15 p.m., B-11:45, 3.00, 6.15, 9.30 p.m.) | CINE GALAXY NOVA CINEMAS (Surathkal, A-10:30, 1:30, 4:30 p.m., B-7:00, 10:00 p.m.) |MOVIE TIME (Davangere | Bellary) | SWAGATH SHANKARNAG | ABHINAY THEATRE (A-10:30, 1:30 p.m., B-4:30, 7:30, 10:15 p.m.) | VAIBHAV THEATRE (SANJAYNAGAR, A-10:15, 1:00 p.m., B-4:00, 7:00, 10:00 p.m.) | BALAJI THEATRE (TAVAREKERE, A-1:00, 7:00 p.m., B-4:00 p.m.) | PRASANNA THEATRE (Magadi Road, A-10:30, 1:30 p.m., B-4:30, 7:30, 10:30 p.m.) | KAMAKYA THEATRE (Kattiruguppe, A-4:30 p.m., B-10:00 p.m.) | VAJRESHWARI THEATRE (Ullala, A-4:30 p.m., B-10:00 p.m.) | TIRUMALA THEATRE (Agara, A-6:15 p.m., B-9:30 p.m.) | SRINIVASA THEATRE (Kadugodi) | MANASA THEATRE (Konnanakunte Cross, A-6:30 p.m., B-2:45 p.m.) | SANDHYA THEATRE (Madiwala) | VIJAYALAKSHMI THEATRE (Garudacharpalya) | LAKSHMI THEATRE (Rammurthynagar) | BRUNDA THEATRE (Hongasandra) | RADHAKRISHNA THEATRE (R.T.Nagar) | SIDDALINGESHWARA THEATRE (Jp Nagar) | GALAXY PARADISE THEATRE (Hongasandra) | VIASHNAVI VAIBHAVI CINEMAS (Uttarahalli, A-10:40, 10:20 p.m., B-1:30, 7:20 p.m.) | VENKATESHWARA THEATRE (Konnappana Agrahara) | MAHADESHWARA THEATRE (Kadirenahalli, A-10:45, 7:45 p.m., B-9:45 p.m.) | VINAYAKA THEATRE DJ HALLI (DJ Halli, A-11:00, 2:30 p.m., B-6:15, 9:30 p.m.) | TRIMURTHY THEATRE (Tiptur) | SHAAN THEATRE (Ramanagara, A-10:45, 1:45 p.m., B-4:45, 7:45 p.m.) | SREE GURU THEATRE (Hassan, A-10:45, 1:45 p.m., B-4:45, 7:45 p.m.) | MALLIKARJUNA THEATRE (Shimoga, 6:00, 9:00 p.m.) | NAGALAKSHMI THEATRE (Chikamagalore) | PLANET THEATRE (Karkala) | GEETHANJALI THEATRE (Davangere) | BASAVESHWARA THEATRE (Chitradurga, A-5:45 p.m., B-9:45 p.m.).

FARNAZ

New SOP for mass gatherings

In response to mounting public outrage, Home Minister Dr G Parameshwara announced that the government will soon introduce a new Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) for all major public events, gatherings, and celebrations. “The incident is unprecedented in Karnataka’s cricketing history. We mourn the loss of 11 lives and acknowledge the failure,” he told reporters after visiting Chinnaswamy Stadium for inspection. “We will bring in a strict SOP. Any future celebrations must follow police instructions and crowd management protocols. Innocent lives cannot be lost this way,” he said. Dr. Parameshwara confirmed that a magisterial inquiry, led by the Bengaluru Urban DC, has been ordered. “Until the report is out, we can’t specify the lapses. But those responsible will face action.”
Officials said, the stadium has a capacity of 34,000, but 3 lakh+ people gathered outside. The minister confirmed stampedes occurred at gates 6, 7, 2, 2A, 17, 18, 21, and 16. He said many victims had succumbed to injuries at the hospital.

No lessons learnt from past tragedies

Sridhar.Vivan@timesofindia.com
TWEETS @sridharvMIRROR

Hyderabad and Bengaluru have witnessed stampedes in recent times, raising urgent questions about crowd management and safety preparedness.

A retired police official said over the past decade, India has seen several stampedes during religious festivals, political rallies, and cultural events — from the 2013 Allahabad Kumbh Mela stampede that claimed 36 lives, to the 2010 Pune Ganesh festival stampede that killed 15. “Despite these recurring tragedies, the lessons to prevent such disasters remain inadequately learned.” Experts point to poor crowd control, poor infrastructure, lack of real-time monitoring, and insufficient police preparedness as recurring failures. Event organisers often underestimate crowd volumes and do not enforce strict entry and exit protocols. Emergency medical facilities on-site are lacking.

What can be done?

A retired police official said that authorities must implement scientifically designed crowd control measures, including timed entry passes, barricades, and clear signage. “Deployment of CCTV surveillance, drone monitoring, and AI-powered crowd analytics can help detect early signs of congestion or panic. Police and security forces should be rigorously trained in crowd psychology and emergency response. Quick access to medical teams and first aid stations at strategic points within venues can save lives.”

KAUSHIK JN

The pile of slippers and shoes being cleared from outside the stadium

Second worst stampede

- The stampede at the RCB celebration event marks the second deadliest stampede in Karnataka’s history. The worst such tragedy occurred in 1981, when 92 people — including 56 children — lost their lives in a fire and stampede at the Venus Circus in Bengaluru.
- A short circuit in the electric cables triggered a massive fire that quickly engulfed the circus tent in February 1981.
- In 2016, a surge at Bengaluru’s AKP Convention Centre during ration token distribution claimed one life
- In April 2024, a stampede during the Siddalinga Maharaj Rathotsava in Vijayapura left five dead and several injured across two days of festivities

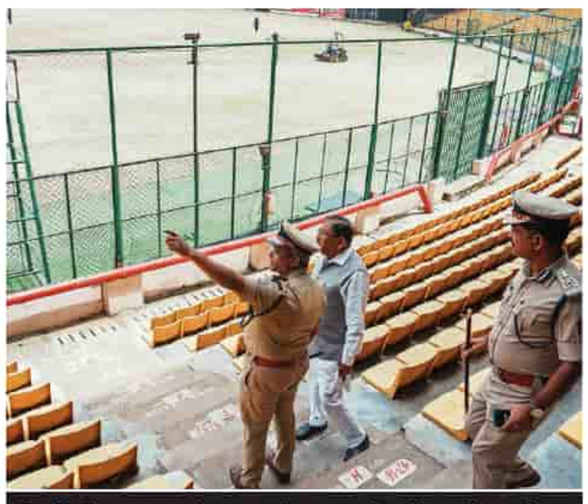
Another retired police official said that citizens attending large events must also take responsibility. “Arrive early, avoid overcrowding near gates, and follow instructions issued by authorities.”

Aftermath of a catastrophe

Top cop suspended; FIR puts part of blame on RCB

KAUSHIK JN

In the wake of the stampede on Wednesday, the Karnataka government on Thursday has taken unprecedented action. Bengaluru City Police Commissioner B Dayananda, along with several senior police officers, has been suspended for their failure to prevent the disaster. Chief Minister Siddaramaiah announced the measures during an urgent press briefing on Thursday night, following a high-level Cabinet meeting. This is the first time in the State's history that an ADGP rank is being suspended. It was a professional setback for Dayananda as he was expecting a promotion to DG rank shortly.



Dr G Parameshwara inspects the site of the tragedy a day after the crowd surge, on Thursday

Senior police officials suspended

Commissioner B Dayananda was immediately removed from his post, along with Additional Commissioner Vikas Kumar, DCP (Central) Shekhar Tekkannavar, Cubbon Park ACP Balakrishna and Inspector Girish. The suspensions come in response to glaring lapses in crowd management and safety protocols during the event. The government has held these officers directly responsible for the catastrophic failure that led to the loss of lives.

Judicial probe

To ensure a thorough investigation into the circumstances that led to the stampede, the government has appointed a one-man judicial commission headed by retired High Court Judge Justice Michael D'Cunha. This commission will scrutinise all aspects of the event planning, police coordination, and crowd control measures, aiming to uncover systemic flaws and assign accountability.

FIR registered

An FIR Registered under Section 106 of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita has been registered against the Royal Challengers Bengaluru (RCB), the Karnataka State Cricket Association (KSCA), and DNA Entertainment, the event's co-organisers. "This incident occurred because appropriate arrangements were not made for the fans to enter the stadium. The announcement by the RCB on their official website that free passes would be distributed at the gates for the public is the reason for the gathering of lakhs of people. It was difficult to avert the incident. The police had deputed sufficient officers and cops, initiated all required security measures, and thereby averted a much larger tragedy," the FIR stated. The Chief Minister has ordered the immediate arrest of representatives from all three entities, citing gross negligence and failure to ensure public safety as key factors behind the tragedy.

CID takes over

The case has now been transferred to the Criminal Investigation Department (CID) for a comprehensive probe. Chief Minister Siddaramaiah confirmed that parallel investigations — by both the judicial commission and CID — will proceed to ensure a transparent and in-depth inquiry. The government has already submitted a formal report to the Karnataka High Court, seeking approval for CID's involvement in the investigation. Speaking at the press conference, CM Siddaramaiah expressed his deep sorrow over the incident, stating, "In all my years as an MLA, I have never witnessed such a devastating stampede."

RCB pledges financial aid for victims

Indian Premier League franchise Royal Challengers Bengaluru have pledged one million Indian rupees ($11,654) to each family of the 11 fans who died in the crowd surge. The franchise will also launch a support fund for the injured. "The unfortunate incident in Bengaluru yesterday has caused a lot of anguish and pain to the RCB family," the team said in a statement on Thursday. "As a mark of respect and a gesture of solidarity, RCB has announced a financial support of Rs 10 lakh to each of the 11 families."– Reuters

'Unprepared to handle turnout of 2.5 lakh people'

The Karnataka State government acknowledged to the High Court on Thursday that it was unprepared for managing approximately 2.5 lakh people at the M Chinnaswamy stadium in Bengaluru during the RCB's IPL 2025 victory celebration on June 4. A division bench, led by acting Chief Justice V Kameswar Rao and Justice C.M. Joshi, initiated suo motu proceedings after reviewing various newspaper reports and communications about the incident.

The authorities confirmed deploying 1,600 police personnel, twice the usual number for cricket matches at the stadium, which has a maximum capacity of 34,600 people. When questioned about event management protocols, the Government confirmed the absence of a standard operating procedure (SOP) for such large gatherings, whilst committing to establish one.

State Advocate General Shashi Kiran Shetty informed the court that additional police were deployed, anticipating larger crowds due to RCB's first IPL victory in 18 years. Shetty explained that event organisers had obtained necessary permissions, and the free entry announcement attracted approximately 2.5 lakh people to the stadium vicinity. He noted that historically, only about 2,000 people would gather outside the stadium for last-minute tickets during matches. He added that police personnel worked until 4 am on June 4 as celebrations continued from the June 3 IPL final victory.

The A-G reported that the stampede caused four deaths near Gate number-4, three near Gate number-6, and four near Minsk Square. Of the 56 injured, 51 sustained minor injuries whilst four suffered serious injuries. He confirmed the registration of an FIR and initiation of a sub-division magistrate inquiry. The Bench, after reviewing the information, indicated it would issue directions and scheduled the next hearing for June 10, 2025.. –BMB

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Covid claims another life in Karnataka, death toll rises to 7

A 65-year-old man in Davangere, who died of cardiopulmonary arrest, aspiration pneumonia in septic shock as well as uncontrolled diabetes mellitus on Thursday, has tested positive for Covid-19.

His demise has pushed the Covid-related death toll in Karnataka to seven as of Thursday.

According to the health department, he died on May 31 at the government hospital of Davanagere.

Karnataka's total positive cases on Thursday were 65, taking the cumulative cases from January to 796. Total tests done in the last 24 hours is 644, of which 566 are RTPCR tests and 78 RAT tests. -PTI

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Date: 06/06/2025

Place: Bengaluru

personal

CHANGE OF NAME

I John Marshall Raberts S/O Eslyn Michael Raberts R/O Horamavu Agara Bengaluru have changed my name to John Marshall for all future purposes

I, Shaheena Mohiuddin w/o Abdul Razak, R/o No-6/1, 11th Cross, Lalbagh Fort Road, Doddamavalli, Bengaluru-560004 have changed my Name to Shahina for all Purposes.

I, Jayaram V, R/o #43, Sanjay Nagar, 1st Cross, Marathahalli, Bangalore 560037, have changed my Name to V Jayaram B Varadaraju Vide Affidavit Sworn on 04.06.2025

I, Nilesh M Sawant R/O L1701, Ajmera Infinity, Electronic City Phase 1,Bengaluru- 560100 Have changed my minor daughter's name Devashree to Devashree N Sawant for all future purposes

I, Pavithra Vijay R/o No.954,1st main, 6th cross, Kengeri Upanagar, Bengaluru 560060 have changed my name to Pavithra Raghavendra Affidavit Dt.05/06/2025 notary Harisha G, B'luru

I Pratibha Ramesh Hosamani W/O, Vinod Gubache R/o No 227 5th Main 5th Cross 6th Phase Mahaganapati Nagar Rajajinagar Bangalore 560010 have changed my name to Pratibha Vinod Gubache

I, Anshu Agarwal Sunil Kumar Agarwal W/o Dinesh Kumar R/o #65,Jindal Bhavan,4th Main Road,Kamakshipalya, Basaveshwaranagar, B'luru 560079- have changed my name to Anshu Agarwal.

I, Vijay R/o No.67/1 11, Subramanyapura road, Kadirenahalli, BSK 2nd stage, Bengaluru 560070 have changed my name to Vijay Thopanna Affidavit Dt.05/06/2025 notary Harisha G, B'luru

I Wagh Santosh Sudhakar R/o vpo- Chandol dist- Buldhana (MH) pin 443106 I have change my Daughter name From Gunjan change to Gunjan Santosh Wagh Vide Affidavit No-IN KA45406101977317X Court of The chief metropolitan magistrate. Mayo hall Bangalore,dt.30may2025 & IN-KA37439945106007X Notary S.I.Balaguru. Bangalore date 30 may 2025

I, Ragavanaik H, R/at No.363, 19th E Cross, Kaggadasapura, Near Muneshwara Temple Bangalore - 560093, Have changed My Name To Raghava Naik H, For All Purposes

I,SRIDHARA H K S/O: Krishnappa,R/o No 106, Hosakote Taluk, Hosahalli, Devanagundi, Bangalore Rural, 560067 have changed my name to Sridhar H K for all purpose

I, UTTARA G KOTHARI, Residing at No 86/34, Amarashanti, 1st Block, Madhavanpark, Jayanagar 3rd Block, Bangalore-560011, Have changed my name to UUTTARA KOTHARI, vide affidavit dated 05/06/2025 sworn before Notary Aravind Patil G.G at Bangalore

I Himanshi Srivastava Dayal, D/O of Karuna Shanker Srivastava R/O Prestige Lake Side Habitat, Bengaluru have changed my name from Himanshi Srivastava Dayal to Himanshi Srivastava for all future purposes.

I, Shanta W/o Jaganath R/o No.325, 52nd cross, 9th main, 4th block, Rajajinagar, Bengaluru 560010 have changed my name to Shanta Deshpande Affidavit Dt.05/06/2025 notary Harisha G, B'luru

I, Arvindkumar S/O, Kashinath R/o 1/5/4 Block No 4 And 5, At Indira Nagar, Opp Hanuman Temple, Hudagi Post, Hoodgi, Bidar 585329. have changed my name to Arvindkumar Dhumansure for all purposes.

I, Arathi Phaniraj W/O, K V Phaniraj R/o No 15 Old 11/13 First Floor, 2nd Main Kathriguppe Main Road, Srinivasangara, Banashankari 3rd Stage, Bengaluru 560085. have changed my name to Arathi B A for all purposes.

I, Harisha D G S/O, D L Gurumurthi R/o Nambala, Melige, Thirthahalli, Shimoga 577415 have changed my name to D G Harish for all purposes.

I, Vivekananda G V S/o Venkateshappa M R/o No. 380, Dinnehosahalli Road, Water Tank, Prashantha Nagar, Chikkaballapur Taluk and District, Karnataka – 562101, do hereby declare that I have changed my name from Vivekananda G V to Vivek V for all purposes.

I, Juanita Ahmed, R/o no 7 Kristal Tiara, Bellandur gate, Bangalore 560103 have changed my name to Marie Juanita Ahmed

I Sagara Hanumanthappagari Lakshmi, S/o, Hanumantharayappa, Residing At, Flat C522, Brigade Plumeria Lifestyle, Brigade Meadows, Saluhunase, Udayapura Post, Kanakapura Road, Bengaluru 560082, have changed my name to Sagara Hanumantharayappa Lakshmi for all purposes.

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BMRCL achieves record-breaking ridership on June 4

Amid the bustling scenes around M Chinnaswamy Stadium and the massive crowds at Vidhana Soudha on Wednesday, thousands turned to Namma Metro for a hassle-free commute — helping the Bengaluru Metro Rail Corporation Limited (BMRCL) reach a remarkable milestone in ridership. BMRCL recorded its highest-ever single-day passenger count on June 4 with 9,66,732 commuters boarding metro trains across the city. The spike in ridership was primarily driven by the IPL victory celebrations at the stadium and the concurrent public gathering at Vidhana Soudha.

The data reflects a near threefold jump in usage across key metro corridors. Purple Line (Line 1) saw 4,78,334 passengers, while Green Line (Line 2) recorded 2,84,674. The interchange hub at Kempegowda (KGWA) witnessed an impressive footfall of 2,03,724, indicating its role as the central transit point for the day. Stations located in the Central Business District (CBD) — including Cubbon Park, Vidhana Soudha, MG Road, and Sir M. Visvesvaraya — were among the busiest, reflecting the Metro's growing reliance for access to high-footfall zones during major city events. —BMB

Watch out for your parcel

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

executive shared, "Many of us leave the bag on the bike and carry only the parcel upstairs, especially in buildings without lifts. That's when thieves strike. We can't always carry the whole bag up every time."

According to delivery agents, the pressure is mounting from all sides. "Customers want food fast, companies expect tight delivery timelines, and if something goes wrong, we are the ones held responsible," said Ramesh, another delivery executive. "There have even been cases where items were snatched straight from our hands."

Adding to the complexity, there are also instances where delivery workers themselves are accused of foul play. "Some delivery agents falsely claim that an order has been delivered and then steal the parcel," a spokesperson from a leading food delivery platform said. "If a genuine theft occurs, the agent's salary is not deducted. But the incident is investigated thoroughly before action is taken."

Residents of Mico Layout say they are increasingly worried about the rise in such thefts. "These crimes are becoming more frequent. The police need to be more visible in our neighbourhood," said Priya, a local resident.

Meanwhile, police officials say they are scanning CCTV footage from nearby buildings to trace the culprits. "We are identifying the registration number of the vehicle used in the theft. The investigation is underway," said a police officer from Mico Layout station.

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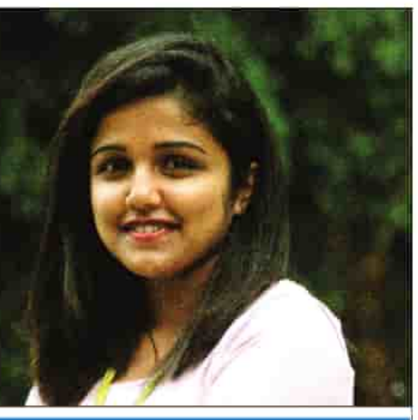

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College	Ranking
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Dayananda Sagar Business Academy - BCA	17
Dayananda Sagar Business Academy - BBA	28

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2184 Students	815 Students	315 Students

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BM Food & Night Life

Advertorial Promotional Feature

A light lunch

1. No Nasties
Avoid refined and processed foods that will only leave you groaning and dozing at your desk the rest of the day. So no refined white flour, sugar, or potatoes.

2. Protein power
Lean protein is really good for you so you can happily reach out for eggs, chicken, tofu, pulses and legumes.

3. Befriend that fibre
We can't stress this enough - Make fibre your BFF. It helps with controlling blood sugar as it slows down the absorption of carbohydrates as well sugar in your body.

4. Portion control
This one is a no-brainer but needs to be mentioned. Eat smaller portions at lunch to avoid keeling over even before the clock strikes 3.

5. Begin sweet
We recommend avoiding sweets after lunch because they could just leave you craving more after a short while. But if you must indulge your sweet tooth and can't resist a little pick-me-up in the middle of the day, then eat them before your meal and not after.

—Femina

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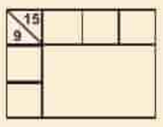
SOLVE IT IN A MINUTE

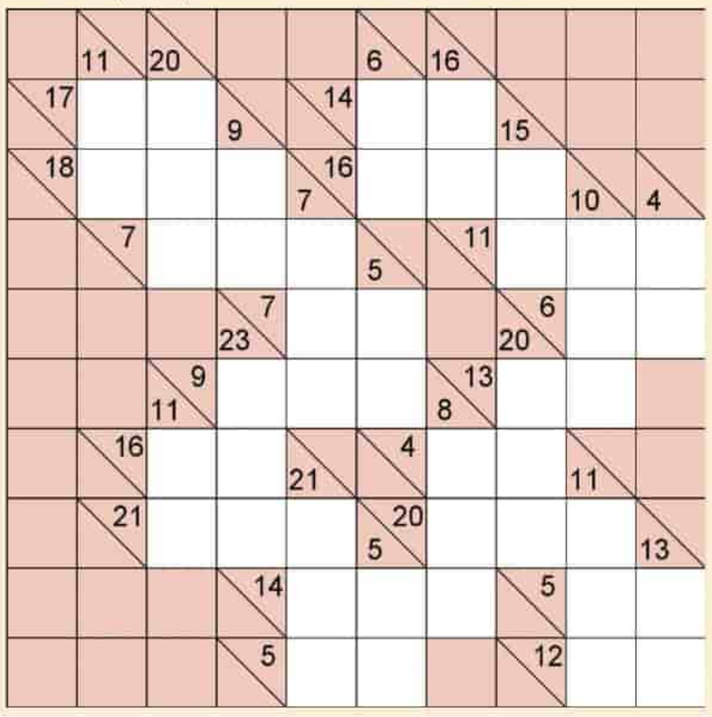
What is the smallest positive integer number of feet that equals a positive integer number of millimeters?

Kakuro

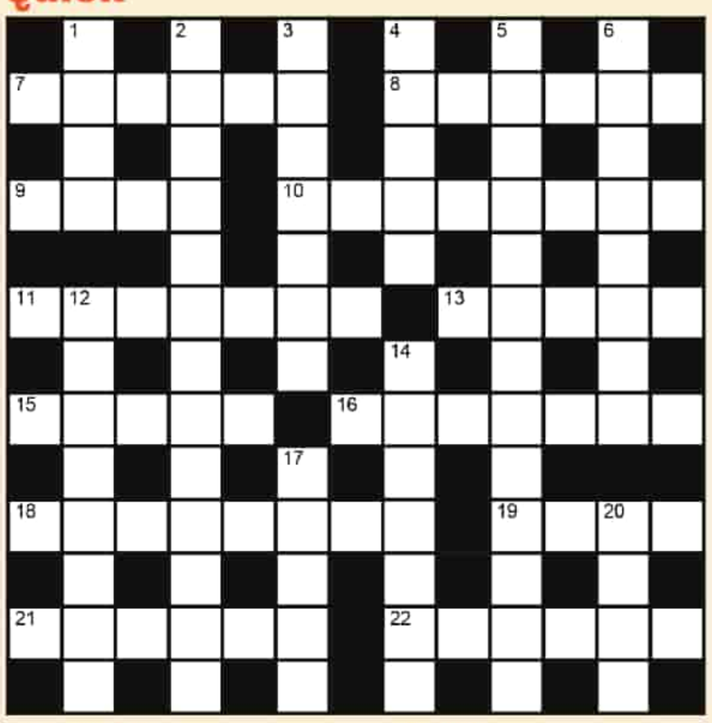
The numbers in the grey squares refer to the sums of the digits that you must fill into the empty spaces directly below or to the right of the grey square containing the number. For instance, in the given example, the 3 boxes horizontally next to 15 must contain 3 digits that add up to 15, whereas for 9, it is the 2 boxes placed vertically under it that must add up to 9. No zeros are used here, only the digits 1 through 9.



Note: A digit cannot appear more than once in any particular digit combination. For instance, in the example, we cannot have the combination of 4+7+4 for 15.



Quick



ACROSS

7 Ideal place (6)
8 Declared or confessed, asserted (6)
9 By mouth (4)
10 Cars, trains, etc (8)
11 Military fortification (7)
13 In poor shape (5)
15 Below (5)
16 Is false to (7)
18 Very well! (3,5)
19 Linden tree (4)
21 Dweller on the Red Sea (6)
22 Extended or stretched out (6)

DOWN

1 Celestial body (4)
2 In ___ ___ ___: absolutely ship-shape? (5-3,5)
3 South Indian river–"vary cue" anagram (7)
4 Routes (5)
5 Focusing (13)
6 Speed (8)
12 Invalidated (8)
14 Oriental–no just the opposite! (7)
17 Once more (5)
20 Frozen treats (4)

Quoteuncode

This puzzle is a substitution cipher in which one letter stands for another. If you think that Q equals C, it will equal C throughout the puzzle. Single letters, short words and words using an apostrophe give you clues to locating vowels. Solution is by trial and error.

Today's CLUE: I EQUALS G

HKHZMEOWAI EOYE WV RUAH WA EOH BUZXR WV RUAH NM OUSH.

Linemaro

Cars pollute, so can I pick you up on my electric scooter?

Mindchow

A man who is a politician at forty is a statesman at three score and ten. It is at this age, when he would be too old to be a clerk or a gardener or a police-court magistrate, that he is ripe to govern a country

Joke of the day

The thing with high-tech is that you always end up using scissors

Loop

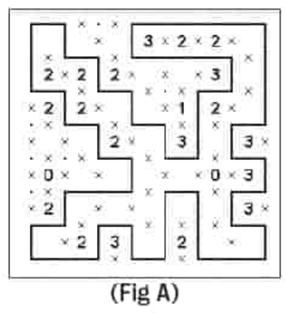
Rules

» Connect adjacent dots with vertical or horizontal lines, creating a single loop (Fig A). » Crossovers or branches are not allowed (As shown by dotted lines in Fig B). » Numbers in the puzzle indicate the number of lines that should surround it, while empty cells may be surrounded by any number of lines. » You can't draw lines around zeros. » Each puzzle has just one unique solution.

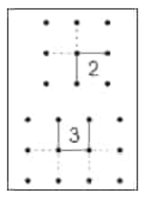
How to begin:

Example (Fig A) – Begin with the zero next to 3. Since no lines can be drawn around zero, mark crosses around it, as shown. Now there is a cross in one space around 3. So we know the three lines of 3 can only be drawn in the remaining three spaces. Next, these lines can only be extended in one direction each. Continue, using the same logic.

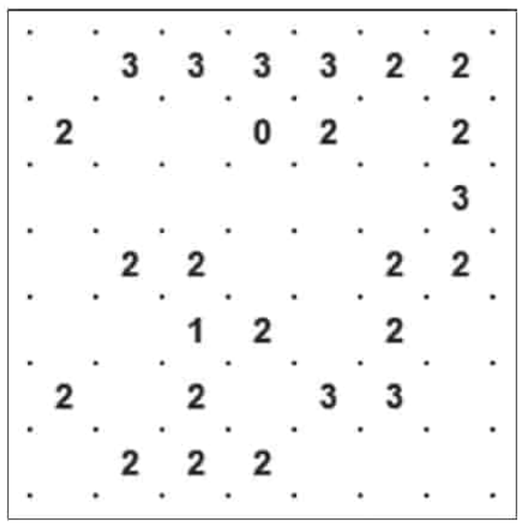
Hints: Keep eliminating possibilities by marking crosses in spaces between dots where a line isn't possible, i.e., if you have already completed required lines or where a line extension may create a branch or cause a dead-end (Fig B)



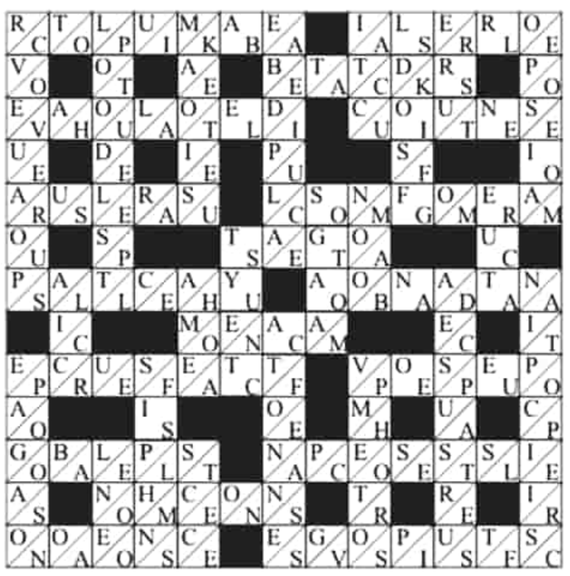
(Fig A)



(Fig B) Not Allowed



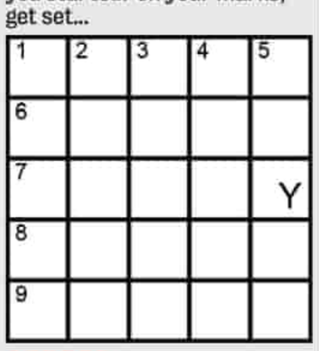
Strikeout



This crossword has no clues and the answer is there waiting for you. All you have to do is find it in each square. You have a choice of two letters, one of which you must strike out. If you choose correctly, you will be left with a grid that contains real words.

Fast five

How long do you think it will take you to unscramble the ten words shown below and fit them correctly into the grid in the order given one letter has already been entered to get you started? on your marks, get set...



ACROSS

1 Ragas; 6 TV due;
7 I yard; 8 Seen U;
9 So bod

DOWN

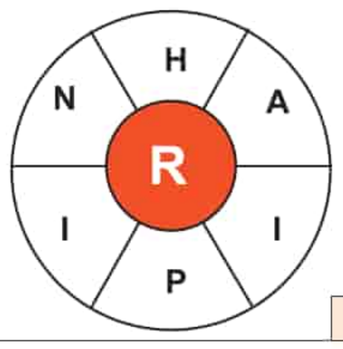
1 Daded; 2 No Aug;
3 Via so; 4 Bu err;
5 St yes

Mensapuzzle

Which letter replaces the question mark in this grid?

N		T		J	
	S		Y		O
R		X		D	
	W		C		I
L		B		H	
	Q		G		?

Bull's eye



How many words of four or more letters can you make from the letters shown? Every word must contain the central letter. There should be one seven-letter word. British English Dictionary is used as a reference.

03 Average; 04 Good; 05 Outstanding

SudokuChallenge

	2		6		8		7	
5				3	7			
		7				4		8
	9	5		8	2			
4								3
			3	1		5	4	
7		3				6		
			1	6				2
	4		5		3		9	

To solve a Sudoku puzzle, every digit from one to nine must appear in each of the nine vertical columns, in each of the nine horizontal rows and in each of the nine boxes.

Gofigure

Place the four numbers in the first, third, fifth, and seventh boxes and whatever operators you care to use in the second, fourth, and sixth boxes in the correct order to get the answer. Use the numbers only once.

Easy = 23

2 8 8 9

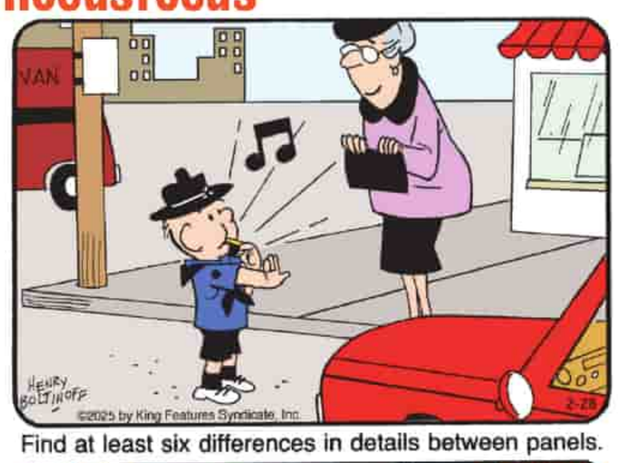
Medium = 37

5 6 6 8

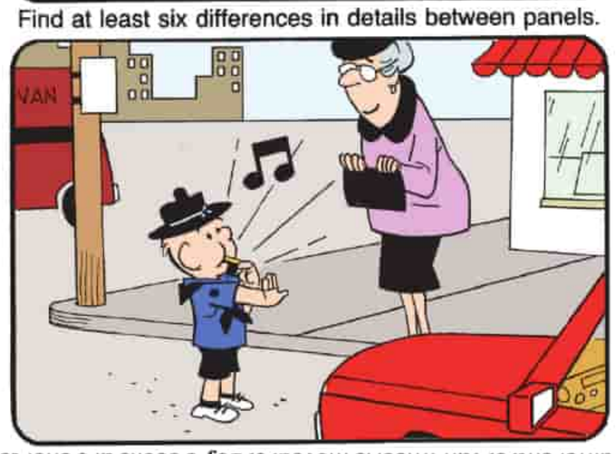
Hard = 4

2 3 8 5

Hocusfocus



Find at least six differences in details between panels.



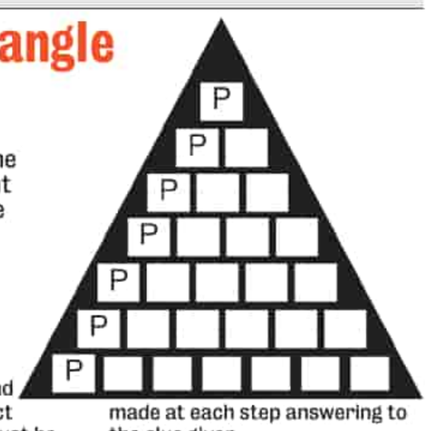
Differences: 1. Awning is wider. 2. Shop window is not as wide. 3. Corner of curb is rounded. 4. Side mirror is different. 5. Van wheel is moved. 6. Boy's socks are shorter.

Riddler

Raise it high! Raise it loud! When burnt it's a disaster. Battered bread for breakfast. He is the banquet's master. What is it?

Alpha triangle

1 16th letter
2 European river
3 Cooking vessel
4 Mystery story line
5 Socrates' student
6 Basque ball game
7 Fit for drinking



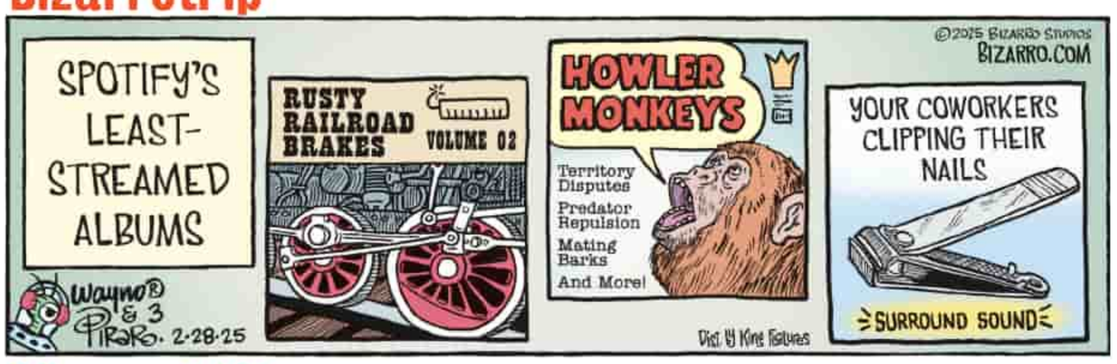
Beginning at the top move towards the bottom seven-letter word by adding a letter at each step and rearranging. A correct and different word must be made at each step answering to the clue given.

DIFFICULT TO SOLVE? FIND THESE SOLUTIONS ON THE NEXT PAGE

COMICS

Popeye

Bizarrotrip



Diamond Lil

Hart of the city

WHAT THE...
DEAN
WHY ARE ALL OF YOUR BOOKS AT HOME AND NOT WITH YOU AT SCHOOL?
I HAD TO MAKE ROOM FOR ALL MY GUM!!
WHY DID I EVEN ASK?
HEART OF THE CITY © 2025 ANDREWS MCMEEL
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Crankshaft

THE BUS DRIVER SHORTAGE IS GETTING SO SEVERE...
THAT THE STATE LEGISLATURE IS CONSIDERING GIVING STUDENTS VOUCHERS...
SO THEY CAN UBER THEMSELVES TO SCHOOL!
2-28
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Mutts

WHAT YOUR STARS SAY TODAY

Aries Mar 21 – Apr 20
You may feel surrounded by positive energy today. You might invest in artifacts or household items to renovate your home. A new business opportunity, possibly in partnership, could be on your mind. Long-distance travel is also likely. Strengthening trust with your spouse will enhance domestic harmony.

Taurus Apr 21 – May 20
Your performance at work is likely to be strong, and a good rapport with your boss may bring new responsibilities or even a promotion. Chronic health issues may begin to resolve. Financial incentives are possible. Disputes with siblings may be settled, and job seekers may find new opportunities.

Gemini May 21 – Jun 21
Today may revolve around your children's education, including planning for their higher studies. Couples may receive good news related to children. You may also consider pursuing your own education to enhance your career prospects. Singles might meet someone special. Those in education, consulting, or finance will perform well.

Cancer Jun 22 – July 23
Feelings of dissatisfaction may weigh you down today. You might struggle with responsibilities, and investments could bring losses. Read documents carefully before signing anything. Concerns over an elder's health may upset you. Renovation plans should be postponed for now.

Leo Jul 24 – Aug 23
Disputes with siblings are likely to be resolved, strengthening your bond. A boost in your energy levels will help you complete difficult tasks efficiently. A short business trip may expand your network. Helping someone in need could elevate your social standing.

Virgo Aug 24 – Sep 23
Family gatherings may keep you engaged. Your polite and courteous behavior will leave a positive impression on relatives and friends. You may spend money on decorative items or other things that enhance your social image. Good news may arrive from a close family member.

Libra Sep 24 – Oct 22
With blessings from elders, you'll feel more patient and focused. This renewed clarity will help you make progress in both personal and professional life. A balanced approach to saving and spending may strengthen your financial position.

Scorpio Oct 23 – Nov 22
You may feel mentally unsettled today, with low energy slowing down your work and delaying projects. Love birds should avoid making major relationship decisions. Job seekers may face temporary disappointment. Focus on rest and patience.

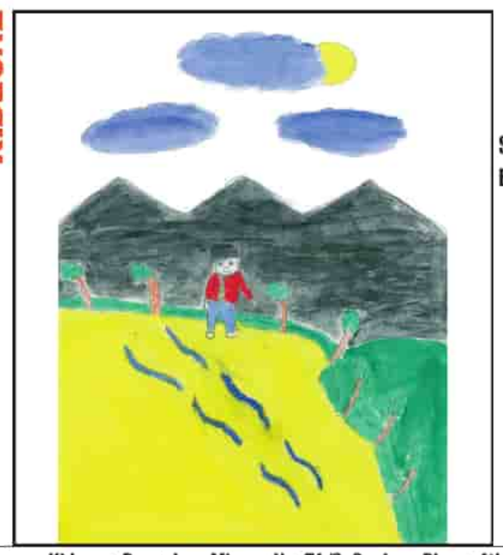
Sagittarius Nov 23 – Dec 22
Inner strength and confidence will uplift you. You might benefit from small investment gains. A positive relationship with your boss could lead to a promotion. Your reputation may grow, and work-related travel could be on the horizon.

Capricorn Dec 23 – Jan 20
You're likely to receive blessings from the Moon today. Your hard work may earn you a higher position and improved performance at work. An encounter with an influential figure might inspire positive changes. You'll manage domestic issues well, enhancing family harmony.

Aquarius Jan 21 – Feb 19
A sense of happiness and spiritual focus will guide you today. Visiting a religious site or making a charitable donation may bring inner peace. An overseas opportunity related to education or work could arise. Couples may grow closer, and singles could meet a potential partner.

Pisces Feb 20 – Mar 20
You may feel isolated or introspective, engaging in self-reflection. Changes in your role or location may be on the way. Patience will be tested, and arrogance could strain your relationships. Avoid adventurous activities for now and stay grounded.

KIDZONE



Shreya, Bengaluru

Akshaya, Bengaluru

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SOLUTIONS

SOLVE IN 1M
1 ft=12 in
1 ft=12 * 2.54 = 30.48cm
1 ft= 30.48 * 10 = 304.8 mm
5 ft=5*304.8
5 ft=1524 mm

BULL'S EYE
hair, HAIRPIN, harp, pair, rain

STRIKE OUT

N	O	O	S	E	■	E	G	O	I	S	T	S		
A	■	O	M	E	N	S	■	T	■	E	■	R		
G	A	L	L	S	■	A	P	O	S	T	L	E		
A	■	I	■	E	■	H	■	U	■	P	■	■		
P	R	E	F	E	C	T	■	P	O	P	U	P		
I	■	■	O	N	A	M	■	E	■	I	■	■		
P	A	T	C	H	Y	■	A	B	A	D	A	N		
U	■	S	■	S	E	G	O	■	■	C	■	■		
R	U	E	R	S	■	C	O	N	F	O	R	M		
E	■	D	■	E	■	U	■	F	■	O	■	■		
V	A	U	L	T	E	D	■	C	I	T	E	S		
O	■	O	■	A	■	B	A	C	K	S	■	P		
O	L	U	M	B	A	■	I	S	E	R	E	■		

FAST FIVE

A	G	A	R	S
D	U	V	E	T
D	A	I	R	Y
E	N	S	U	E
D	O	O	B	S

QUOTE UNCODE
Everything that is done in the world is done by hope.

QUICK

D	■	R	■	N	■	N	■	G	■	S				
Y	E	M	E	N	I	■	R	A	N	G	E	D		
L	■	D	■	A	■	E	■	I	■	C	■	■		
A	L	L	R	I	G	H	T	■	T	E	I	L		
U	■	O	■	A	■	S	■	A	■	■	■	■		
U	N	D	E	R	■	B	E	T	R	A	Y	S		
N	■	I	■	Y	■	W	■	T	■	T	■	■		
R	A	M	P	A	R	T	■	U	N	F	I	T		
■	■	E	■	E	■	S	■	E	■	R	■	■		
O	R	A	L	■	E	H	I	C	L	E	S	■		
A	■	P	■	U	■	T	■	N	■	L	■	■		
U	T	O	P	I	A	■	A	V	O	W	E	D		
S	■	A	■	C	■	P	■	C	■	■	■	C		

MENSA PUZZLE
RIDDLER Toast
M. Start with the top row, second square from the right, and move down and to the right in diagonal lines, advancing across the diagram to the left. Letters are written in alphabetical order, in steps of 5 at a time.

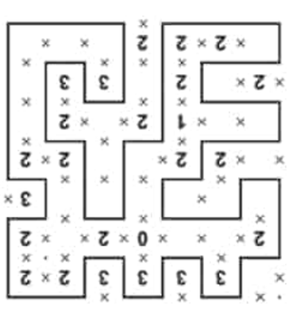
SUDOKU

1	2	9	6	4	8	3	7	5
5	8	4	2	3	7	9	1	6
6	3	7	9	5	1	4	2	8
3	9	5	4	8	2	1	6	7
4	6	1	7	9	5	2	8	3
8	7	2	3	1	6	5	4	9
7	1	3	8	2	9	6	5	4
9	5	8	1	6	4	7	3	2
2	4	6	5	7	3	8	9	1

ALPHA TRIANGLE
P, Po, Pot, Plot, Plato, Pelota, Potable.

GO FIGURE
Easy
9 + 8 - 2 + 8 = 23
Medium
8 x 6 - 5 - 6 = 37
Hard
3 + 8 - 5 - 2 = 4

LOOP



KAKURO

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